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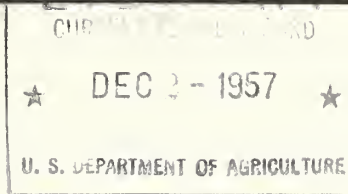
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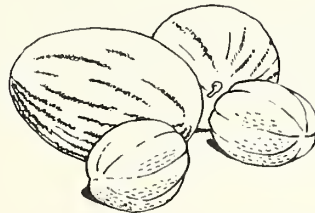
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1958

ACREAGE-MARKETING GUIDES



Spring Vegetables



Spring Melons



Spring Potatoes

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service AMG-2

F O R E W O R D

The acreage-marketing guides program for vegetables, including potatoes and sweetpotatoes, is designed to assist growers in balancing the supply of each vegetable with market requirements. The program is an attempt by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to provide the best possible estimates of the acreage of particular vegetables required, with average yields, to supply the quantity of these vegetables deemed necessary to meet the market need anticipated for the coming season.

The guide reports are prepared by specialists who follow the production and marketing patterns for the various commodities closely throughout the year and develop a record of happenings in the various markets, with explanations for unusual occurrences. On the basis of the latest and best available information, specific recommendations are developed for each commodity and a brief report is prepared explaining the reasons for each recommendation. Recognition is given to trends and any abnormalities of preceding seasons. However, the recommendations are based upon the assumption that average conditions will prevail in the following season. The recommendation for each commodity is presented in terms of a percentage change from the acreage and production for preceding years, so as to permit each individual grower to apply this percentage-change recommendation to his individual operations. The recommendations are reviewed before publication by representatives of various agencies of the Department of Agriculture.

The grower is provided not only with the specialists' recommendation, but also with the latest possible information upon which the recommendation is based. The information is presented to the grower in sufficient time for him to consider the facts as he develops his plans for the forthcoming season. The fundamental concept behind the guide program is that, given the best information possible, the grower will make intelligent decisions for his and the industry's best interest. Compliance with the guides on the part of growers is voluntary. When growers have kept acreage within the levels recommended by the Department, few marketing difficulties have been encountered.

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1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides

Spring Vegetables, Spring Melons and Spring Potatoes

The primary purpose of acreage-marketing guides is to bring about a needed change in planted acreage from that of the preceding year so that the resulting production will be in line with market requirements. Each individual grower should adjust his own acreage in accordance with the individual commodity guides. For example, when it is recommended that the 1958 acreage of early spring cucumbers be reduced 15 percent from the acreage planted in 1957, every grower of early spring cucumbers should decrease his plantings by 15 percent. The recommended acreage adjustments necessarily assume normal weather conditions, usual planting schedules, and normal marketing patterns by commodities. The recommendations also assume average yields in recent years will be obtained. With these conditions, production from the guide acreages would provide adequate supplies for all normal outlets under prospective demand conditions.

I. SUMMARY OF ADJUSTMENTS

Spring Vegetables: The aggregate acreage guide for 18 spring vegetables in 1958 is a planted acreage 1 percent more than in 1957 but 5 percent less than in 1956. With normal abandonment and average yields, this acreage will result in a 1958 production 1 percent more than in 1957 but 6 percent less than in 1956.

Total planted acreage of these 18 spring vegetables for fresh market in 1957 was about 6 percent less than in 1956. Acreage losses were about average but yields generally were low. Total 1957 production was 7 percent less than in 1956. The substantial reduction in acreage and production reflected unusually adverse growing conditions in all major producing areas. Plantings in Texas were restricted by early season drought and crops later were heavily damaged by excessive rains. Crops in Florida also were severely damaged by heavy spring rains. Prices generally were above 1956 levels, averaging 111 percent of the 1947-49 average prices for spring vegetables compared with 105 percent in 1956.

Spring Melons: The 1958 aggregate acreage guide for the two spring melon crops is a planted acreage 2 percent more than in 1957. With normal abandonment and average yields, production in 1958 would be 28 percent more than in 1957. Prices received for melons in 1957 were 145 percent of the 1947-49 average compared with 113 percent in 1956.

Spring Potatoes: The 1958 acreage guide for spring potatoes is a planted acreage 15 percent below 1957 in Florida, California and Arizona, 9 percent below 1957 in North Carolina, and equal to 1957 in all other spring crop states. Such acreages, with average yields, would result in a production 14 percent less than in 1957 and 5 percent less than the 1952-56 average.

Specific planted acreage guide recommendations for 1958 spring vegetables are as follows:

Commodity	Percentage change in 1958 planted acreage compared with 1957	
<u>Spring Vegetables</u>		Percent
Beans, Lima		No change
Beans, Snap	- Early Spring	Plus 20
	Mid Spring	No change
	Late Spring	No change
Beets		No change
Broccoli	- Early Spring	Minus 10
	Late Spring	No change
Cabbage	- Early Spring	No change
	Late Spring	No change
Carrots		Minus 10
Cauliflower	- Early Spring	Minus 15
	Late Spring	No change
Celery		$\frac{1}{2}$
Sweet Corn	- Early Spring	$\frac{2}{2}$
	Late Spring	Plus 10
Cucumbers	- Early Spring	Minus 15
	Late Spring	$\frac{3}{3}$
Eggplant		Minus 15
Lettuce	- Early Spring	$\frac{4}{4}$
	Late Spring	No change
Onions	- Early Spring	$\frac{5}{5}$
	Late Spring	Minus 10
Peas, Green	- Early Spring	No change
Peppers, Green		Minus 5
Shallots		No change
Spinach		No change
Tomatoes	- Early Spring	$\frac{6}{6}$
	Late Spring	No change
<u>Spring Melons</u>		
Cantaloups		Plus 20
Watermelons		Minus 5

- 1/ Celery: Planted acreage 10 percent less than in 1957 in Florida, California acreage equal to 1957.
- 2/ Sweet Corn, Early Spring: Planted acreage 10 percent more than in 1957 in Texas, Florida acreage equal to 1957.
- 3/ Cucumbers, Late Spring: Planted acreage equal to 1957 in California, and 5 percent less than in 1957 in all other States.
- 4/ Lettuce, Early Spring: Planted acreage 15 percent less than in 1957 in Arizona, and equal to 1957 in all other States.
- 5/ Onions, Early Spring: Planted acreage 25 percent above 1957 in Raymondville-Lower Valley and Coastal Bend areas, 15 percent below 1957 in Winter Garden and Eagle Pass areas and equal to 1957 in all other areas.
- 6/ Tomatoes, Early Spring: Planted acreage 10 percent more than in 1957 in Florida, 25 percent more than in 1957 in Texas and equal to 1957 in California.

II. DEMAND FOR SPRING VEGETABLES IN 1958

Economic activity in the first nine months of 1957 continued to expand. Higher outlays by Federal and State and local Governments, a continued high level of business expenditures for new plant and equipment, and a strong consumer demand for nondurable goods and services contributed to this expansion. With a high level of consumer income likely in the first half of 1958, farmers can plan for a demand situation for spring vegetables at least as good as it was last spring.

Federal Government outlays, which advanced rapidly through the first half of 1957 are beginning to level off. Scheduled expenditures for national security based on the mid-year review of the 1957-58 Budget point to some decline in defense spending. Other Federal expenditures are expected to remain approximately at current levels. Outlays of State and local Governments will expand further due to higher construction outlays for highways, schools and other needed facilities. Wages and salaries are also expected to continue upward reflecting higher employment and wage rates.

Private construction outlays for the July-September quarter were above the first half of 1957 as well as all of 1956. In recent months residential outlays have recovered sharply from the low for the year recorded in May. But residential building is still 4 percent below a year ago. Industrial construction has declined since April, reflecting the leveling out in business investment outlays. Construction outlays for churches, schools, hospitals, and other private institutions have continued strong throughout 1957.

Expenditures for new plant and equipment for 1957 are estimated to be 37 billion dollars, up 6 percent from 1956. There has not been any substantial increase in the rate of capital spending during 1957, and the estimates for the fourth quarter indicate a slight decline from the peak third quarter rate. A survey of intentions for capital spending by larger manufacturing corporations indicates that the rate of spending in the spring of 1958 will decline moderately from the levels in the last half of 1957. Private utilities however, are expected to continue their scheduled expansion programs.

Consumer demand for goods and services was an important element of strength throughout the first 9 months of 1957. Consumer spending was up more than 5 percent from a year ago. This rise mainly reflected higher consumer incomes. However, per capita incomes, adjusted for price level change, have held steady during the past year and are not expected to change much in coming months.

III. PRODUCTION AND MARKETING MATERIALS AND FACILITIES

Supplies of equipment, materials and facilities for the production, packaging and distribution of vegetables should be ample during the spring of 1958.

An adequate supply of farm machinery and equipment is expected. There was a modest increase in the demand for farm machinery in 1957. Manufacturers have adjusted their production rates accordingly, with sufficient margin to take care of all foreseeable demands. All other production supplies, such as fuel, trucks, implement and truck tires, are expected to be adequate.

Supplies of fertilizers and pesticides should be ample for the production of spring vegetables. However, sudden outbreaks of insects and plant disease could quickly cause local shortages of some pesticides. Growers should place their orders early for at least the minimum requirements of these materials.

Manpower: The over-all availability of farm manpower in 1958 may be slightly greater than in 1957 because of cut-backs in some industrial activities. Farm employers, especially those using many seasonal workers, can minimize their labor problems by planning for the recruitment of needed labor in close cooperation with local Employment Service offices. Workers from foreign sources will continue to be available for seasonal farm work in areas where needs cannot be met from domestic sources. The supply of experienced year-around farm workers is expected to continue tight. Farm employers should continue to give attention to adequate housing, continuity of employment and other incentives which make it possible to attract and hold qualified workers in the farm work force. They should also increase their efforts to train qualified replacements.

Transportation: Facilities should be ample for transporting the production from the recommended acreage of 1958 spring season fresh vegetables. The supply of trucks and trailers will be ample. The supply of railroad cars also should be adequate if weather conditions permit normal patterns of production and loading in 1958. Any shortages should be temporary. The Association of American Railroads and the car lines continue to watch the distribution of refrigeration cars closely, so as to maintain adequate rolling stock in the various shipping areas.

IV. SURPLUS REMOVAL: It is the policy of the U. S. Department of Agriculture to limit surplus removal assistance for potatoes and other vegetables to those areas where there has been substantial compliance with the Department's acreage-marketing guides. However, compliance with the guides program does not commit the Department to provide assistance for any commodity or area. By providing growers with the necessary information, the Department expects that acreage can be adjusted so as to bring supplies in balance with market requirements and avoid marketing difficulties. Before planting time, growers should take precautionary measures to assure themselves of available market outlets.

V. FOREIGN SPRING VEGETABLE PROSPECTS

Exports: Lettuce, tomatoes, and onions were the only vegetables classified separately in U. S. customs data in 1956. Of these three, exports of lettuce and onions continued their upward trends in 1957 but tomato exports were down slightly more than 5 million pounds.

Other vegetable exports during the spring of 1957 compared with 1955 (the last year they were separately classified) show that the upward trends continued for all commodities except carrots and spinach.

SPRING VEGETABLES: Exports from United States, March through June 1957, with comparisons for 1956 and 1955

Commodity	March-June 1957		March-June Total		
	Canada	Other	1957	1956	1955
- - - - - 1,000 pounds - - - - -					
Beans, fresh	5,242	47	5,289	NSC	4,064
Cabbage	39,794	405	40,199	NSC	35,647
Carrots	44,903	934	45,837	NSC	48,946
Celery	39,954	292	40,246	NSC	35,502
Lettuce	63,735	2,076	65,811	60,664	48,097
Peas, green	450	89	539	NSC	404
Peppers	2,678	38	2,716	NSC	2,306
Tomatoes	37,591	397	37,988	43,109	41,370
Spinach	2,251	30	2,281	NSC	2,361
Onions	39,761	16,968	56,729	54,502	55,444
Watermelons	31,023	295	31,318	NSC	27,553

Note: NSC means not separately classified.

Source: Compiled from official records of Bureau of the Census.

Imports: Imports of most spring vegetables in 1957 were up sharply from 1956. However, 1956 was a low year because of unfavorable weather in Mexico. While a comparison with 1955 still shows an increase, the difference is not as marked. Exceptions to this increase were cucumbers and onions, both of which show important decreases. Onions were down materially as a result of a decrease of about 43 percent in Mexican shipments to the U. S. The big loss in cucumber trade was a decrease in Cuban shipments from 14 million pounds in 1956 to only 5 million in 1957.

Acreages of both cucumbers and staked tomatoes in Cuba are expected to increase about 500 acres, but there may be a substantial decrease in ground tomatoes. A slight increase was planned for vegetables on the west coast of Mexico, but it was being held up by a shortage of irrigation water in the Culiacan Valley, the principal area. Heavy rains were reported in this area

during the week of October 21. Any damage to acreage already planted is likely to be offset by an improved water supply for later plantings. The acreage of staked tomatoes is expected to show a substantial increase over last year, partially at the expense of ground tomatoes.

SPRING VEGETABLES: Imports into the U. S. of specified kinds, by months, 1957, with comparisons for 1956

Commodity and Country of Origin	1957				: March - June Total	
	: March	: April	: May	: June	: 1957	: 1956
	- - - - - 1,000 pounds - - - - -					
<u>Tomatoes</u>						
Mexico	23,740	13,710	538	256	38,244	15,342
Cuba	5,202	860	24	0	6,086	11,587
Total 1/	29,228	14,695	568	280	44,771	27,197
<u>Peppers</u>						
Mexico	1,801	919	256	146	3,122	1,756
Cuba	1	11	4	1	17	66
Total 1/	1,802	948	260	147	3,157	1,822
<u>Cucumbers</u>						
Mexico	346	650	27	0	1,023	577
Cuba	4,982	37	0	0	5,019	14,154
Total 1/	5,548	729	91	106	6,474	14,785
<u>Onions</u>						
Mexico	2,515	179	227	35	2,956	5,142
Chile	2,190	317	0	0	2,507	1,560
Italy	37	16	951	1,270	2,274	2,303
Total 1/	4,830	524	1,178	1,305	7,837	9,118
<u>Watermelons</u>						
Mexico	3,275	6,907	10,113	2,365	22,660	35,616
Cuba	40	0	0	0	40	296
Total 1/	3,315	6,907	10,113	2,365	22,700	36,135
<u>Cantaloups</u>						
Mexico	13,693	21,662	8,136	551	44,042	51,346
Cuba	95	0	0	0	95	0
Total 1/	13,839	21,684	8,136	551	44,210	51,346

1/ May include small amounts from other areas.

Source: Compiled from official records of Bureau of the Census.

VI. CANNED AND FROZEN VEGETABLES

All canned and frozen vegetables were in heavy supply during the spring of 1957. Supplies of canned corn, beets, tomatoes and tomato products and frozen peas were particularly excessive. Relatively low prices and extensive promotional activity resulted in a sharp expansion in sales of many commodities. Disappearance rates were high, with exceptionally large movements of canned corn, tomatoes, and tomato products and frozen lima beans, snap beans, sweet corn and peas.

During the 1957-58 season, supplies of most canned vegetables (except peas and sweet corn) are expected to be moderately smaller than in 1957, with reduced packs more than offsetting heavy carryovers. However, supplies will be ample to meet market requirements at reasonable prices. Supplies of canned sweet corn and peas probably will be heavy throughout the season. Stocks of frozen vegetables probably will equal or exceed last season's abundant supplies and will continue to offer strong competition to the fresh products.

The supply and disappearance of processed vegetables during the 1955-56 and 1956-57 marketing seasons are shown in the following table:

SUPPLY AND DISAPPEARANCE OF CANNED AND FROZEN VEGETABLES,
MARKETING SEASONS 1955-56 AND 1956-57

Commodity	Total Supply		Disappearance	
	1955-56	1956-57	1955-56	1956-57
	1,000 cases basis 24/2's	1,000 cases basis 24/2's	1,000 cases basis 24/2's	1,000 cases basis 24/2's
Canned Vegetables ^{1/}				
Lima Beans	4,224	4,806	2,813	3,223
Snap Beans	32,195	31,470	24,707	24,752
Beets	9,909	12,097	7,503	8,291
Carrots	3,114	3,988	2,201	2,535
Sweet Corn	32,285	40,199	27,754	32,609
Green Peas	31,999	33,783	27,464	27,710
Spinach	7,363	8,257	5,515	5,953
Tomatoes	30,432	35,346	24,969	26,985
Frozen Vegetables	Thousand Pounds		Thousand Pounds	
Lima Beans	158,190	176,951	124,777	137,804
Snap Beans	154,101	163,331	128,514	133,578
Broccoli	116,375	148,150	86,512	118,531
Cauliflower	45,450	57,179	35,430	41,808
Sweet Corn	114,689	155,536	97,728	130,946
Green Peas	273,328	408,950	224,039	290,682
Spinach	124,547	127,897	101,161	101,286

^{1/} Total supply includes canners' and distributors' stocks.

Source: National Canners Association, National Association of Frozen Food Packers, Census Bureau, U. S. Department of Commerce and AMS, USDA.

Spring Vegetables: 1958 Planted Acreage Guide With Comparisons

Commodity	Planted Acreage					Percent Acreage Guide is of:			
	1958	1957	1951-55	1946-50	1957	1951-55	1946-50		
	Guide	Prel.	1956	Average	Average	Prel.	1956	Average	Average
	- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -					- - - Percent 3/ - - -			
Beans, Lima	3.7	3.7	4.2	5.2	7.7	100	88	72	48
Beans, Snap									
Early	15.4	12.8	17.5	18.7	30.5	120	88	82	50
Mid	15.5	15.5	15.4	20.7	25.3	100	101	75	61
Late	17.8	17.8	17.3	20.0	25.4	100	103	89	70
Beets	.8	.8	1.0	1.0	1.3	100	78	75	58
Broccoli									
Early	12.8	14.2	14.6	10.8	7.5	90	88	119	171
Late	.8	.8	.8	.7	1/	100	102	117	-
Cabbage									
Early	16.7	16.7	17.3	19.1	26.6	100	97	88	63
Late	8.7	8.7	8.9	8.9	11.3	100	98	97	77
Carrots	1.8	2.0	2.4	2.7	4.0	90	75	67	45
Cauliflower									
Early	6.5	7.7	7.4	6.9	9.4	84	88	95	69
Late	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	100	100	115	94
Celery	7.3	7.8	7.2	6.7	6.9	94	101	109	106
Corn, Sweet									
Early	33.0	32.4	36.4	36.9	1/	102	91	89	-
Late	13.3	12.1	12.9	15.3	1/	110	103	87	-
Cucumbers									
Early	11.6	13.7	11.5	13.1	14.0	85	101	89	83
Late	13.1	13.7	13.2	13.5	17.6	96	99	97	74
Eggplant	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.9	85	100	100	59
Lettuce									
Early	44.6	47.6	45.2	46.8	48.8	94	99	95	91
Late	8.1	8.1	8.0	8.1	7.6	100	102	100	107
Onions									
Early	33.4	31.5	51.0	35.7	54.8	106	65	93	61
Late	14.5	16.1	9.8	15.9	17.6	90	149	91	83
Peas, Green									
Early	3.2	3.2	4.4	6.8	14.4	100	73	47	22
Peppers, Green	8.4	8.8	8.0	8.4	8.3	95	105	100	101
Shallots	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.5	1.9	100	93	99	129
Spinach	9.1	9.1	9.3	10.8	13.0	100	98	84	70
Tomatoes									
Early	53.0	45.6	57.9	65.3	60.8	116	92	81	87
Late	43.3	43.3	37.0	48.6	52.3	100	117	89	83
Total 3/	400.3	397.6	422.6	450.5	469.3 2/	101	95	89	75 2/

1/ Not available.

2/ Sweet Corn and Late Broccoli not included.

3/ Computed from unrounded data.

Spring Vegetables: 1958 Probable Production With Comparisons

Commodity	Production 2/					: Probable Production from			
						: acreage guide as percent of:			
	: 1958 1/	: 1957	: 1956	: 1951-55	: 1946-50	: 1957	: 1951-55	: 1946-50	
	: Guide	: Prel.	: 1956	: Average	: Average	: Prel.	: 1956	: Average	: Average
	- - - - - 1,000 tons - - - - -					- - Percent 5/- -			
Beans, Lima	4.2	4.6	3.9	5.8	8.0	92	109	74	53
Beans, Snap									
Early	24.2	22.0	23.7	29.4	31.1	110	102	82	78
Mid	15.4	20.0	15.8	20.5	25.6	77	97	75	60
Late	34.7	36.8	33.3	38.4	40.4	94	104	90	86
Beets	3.4	3.7	4.7	5.0	6.0	92	72	68	57
Broccoli									
Early	40.3	35.5	46.2	34.1	19.8	114	87	118	204
Late	3.6	3.6	3.8	2.4	3/	103	97	152	-
Cabbage									
Early	105.8	120.2	114.9	113.5	143.2	88	92	93	74
Late	53.0	51.5	60.4	54.0	70.7	103	88	98	75
Carrots	18.6	22.0	21.6	27.0	45.8	85	86	69	41
Cauliflower									
Early	54.0	48.1	51.2	56.2	71.6	112	105	96	75
Late	3.8	2.9	3.3	3.4	2.6	129	114	109	144
Celery	200.9	185.2	200.2	181.3	142.0	108	100	111	141
Corn, Sweet									
Early	112.8	89.5	149.1	107.7	3/	126	76	105	-
Late	38.1	37.2	33.8	40.8	3/	102	113	93	-
Cucumbers									
Early	44.9	45.4	42.0	48.1	29.8	99	107	93	151
Late	42.4	44.0	39.0	42.6	47.0	96	109	100	90
Eggplant	6.9	6.3	6.6	6.8	8.7	110	105	101	79
Lettuce									
Early	296.0	330.5	314.0	284.2	253.2	90	94	104	117
Late	61.0	63.0	62.2	58.0	49.4	97	98	105	124
Onions									
Early	132.3	130.5	200.0	104.4	103.2	101	66	127	128
Late	108.4	116.4	75.4	103.0	100.6	93	144	105	108
Peas, Green									
Early	5.4	6.1	6.7	10.8	21.2	89	81	50	26
Peppers, Green	26.2	18.4	25.1	26.5	19.3	143	104	99	136
Shallots	3.5	2.0	3.9	3.6	2.4	175	90	97	149
Spinach	27.4	26.0	28.5	32.4	40.1	105	96	85	68
Tomatoes									
Early	196.2	178.7	208.7	194.2	166.4	110	94	101	118
Late	63.6	59.7	59.2	67.2	90.7	107	107	95	70
Total 5/	1,727.1	1,709.6	1,837.0	1,701.1	1,538.4	101	94	102 4/	102

1/ Computed: planted acreage guide for 1958 spring vegetables less normal abandonment, times average yield. 2/ Includes some quantities not marketed. See individual statements for particulars. 3/ Not available. 4/ Sweet corn and late broccoli not included. 5/ Computed from unrounded data.

Spring Melons: 1958 Planted Acreage Guides With Comparisons

Commodity	Planted Acreage				Percent Acreage Guide is of:			
	: 1958 : : Guide : Prel. :	: 1957 : : 1956 : Average :	: 1946-50 : : Average :	: 1957 : : Prel. :	: 1951-55 : : Average :	: 1956 : : Average :	: 1951-55 : : Average :	: 1946-50 : : Average :
	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
Cantaloups	50,400	42,000	52,200	42,560	32,740	120	97	118
Watermelons	104,600	110,100	104,700	94,480	66,280	95	100	111
								154
								158
Total	155,000	152,100	156,900	137,040	99,020	102	99	113
								157

Spring Melons: 1958 Probable Production With Comparisons

Commodity	Production 2/				Probable Production from Acreage as Percent of:			
	: 1958 1/ : : Guide : Prel. :	: 1957 : : 1956 : Average :	: 1946-50 : : Average :	: 1957 : : Prel. :	: 1951-55 : : Average :	: 1956 : : Average :	: 1951-55 : : Average :	: 1946-50 : : Average :
	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
Cantaloups	225,050	148,300	232,700	208,700	150,050	152	97	108
Watermelons	447,150	375,600	487,500	390,550	232,850	119	92	114
								192
Total	672,200	523,900	720,200	599,250	382,900	128	93	112
								176

1/ Computed: Planted acreage guides for 1958 spring melons less normal abandonment, times average yield.

2/ Includes some quantities not marketed. See individual statements for particulars.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Lima Beans

(Florida and South Carolina)

Year	Acreage		Yield		Price	Value
	:Planted:	:For Harvest:	:Per Acre	:Production:		
	(acres)		(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage equal
to 1957)

3,700

1/ 23

85

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	3,700	3,700	25	92	10.09	928
1956	4,200	3,900	20	78	11.42	891
1951-55 Average	5,160	5,100	23	<u>2</u> / 115	8.94	992
1946-50 "	7,670	7,140	23	<u>2</u> / 161	8.57	1,331

1/ 1952-56 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 19 in 1946, 4 in 1947, 5 in 1948, 6 in 1950, 8 in 1952 and 9 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: The downward trend in acreage of spring lima beans continued in 1957 when planted acreage was 12 percent below 1956 and 28 percent below the 1951-55 average. Growing conditions generally were favorable in Florida and South Carolina during the 1957 spring season. As a result, yields in both states were well above average. The group average yield was 25 percent above 1956 and 9 percent above the 1951-55 average. The increased yields more than offset a moderate decline in acreage and total production was 18 percent more than in 1956. Relatively high prices prevailed until early June, and the Florida season average price was equal to the high level in 1956. Prices for the South Carolina crop were relatively low and the season average price was well below 1956. Competing supplies of frozen lima beans were fairly heavy in 1957 and current production prospects indicate frozen supplies will be slightly larger in 1958. However, the indicated special demand for the fresh product should provide adequate outlets, at favorable prices, for the production from an acreage equal to 1957.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage equal to 1957. Such an acreage with no abandonment and a 1952-56 average yield, will result in a total production 8 percent less than in 1957 and 26 percent less than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Snap Beans - Early Spring

(Texas and Florida)

Year	: Acreage	: Yield	:	:
	:Planted:For Harvest:	Per Acre	:Production:	Price : Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per (\$1,000 cwt.)

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage 20 percent
more than 1957) 15,400

1/ 35

485

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	12,800	12,700	35	439	9.80	4,304
1956	17,500	13,600	<u>2/</u> 35	474	9.82	4,421
1951-55 Average	18,700	16,980	<u>2/</u> 35	589	8.71	4,532
1946-50 "	30,540	24,460	<u>2/</u> 26	622	8.10	4,393

1/ 1951-55 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 78 in 1946, 130 in 1947, 107 in 1949, 77 in 1950, 291 in 1951, 41 in 1955 and 24 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1957 crop was 7 percent less than the record small crop of 1956 because of considerably less planted acreage in Florida. Weather conditions were generally unfavorable throughout the season. Continued showers during the harvesting period in Florida materially reduced the quality of a large percentage of the crop. A slightly increased acreage in Texas had favorable growing conditions but harvesting also was interrupted by showers and quality was lowered considerably. The group acreage for harvest in 1957 was 7 percent less than in 1956 and 25 percent below the 1951-55 average. Market prices for good quality snap beans were relatively high during most of the season but showed a slight decline in late May when supplies from competing mid-spring areas became more abundant. Because of poor quality, a larger than normal percentage of the crop in Florida was sold to processors at salvage prices. Prices received by growers in Texas were much less than in 1956 and slightly less than the 1951-55 average. Competition from canned and frozen snap beans, strong in 1957, is expected to be at least as much in 1958.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 20 percent more than in 1957. Such an acreage with an abandonment of about 10 percent and 1951-55 average yields will result in a production 10 percent more than in 1957, 2 percent more than in 1956, but 17 percent less than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Snap Beans - Mid-Spring

(South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	Yield : Per Acre	: (1,000 cwt.)	: Production:	Price : (\$ per (1,000	: Value cwt.)
	(acres)	(cwt.)				

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage equal to
1957) 15,500

1/ 20

307

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	15,500	15,500	26	399	7.24	2,890
1956	15,400	15,300	21	315	9.72	3,062
1951-55 Average	20,680	20,240	20	<u>2</u> / 410	7.50	2,992
1946-50 "	25,340	25,300	20	<u>2</u> / 511	7.25	3,642

1/ 1951-55 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 13 in 1947 and 9 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: Weather was generally favorable for crops in all mid-spring production areas during the spring of 1957. The downward trend of production of mid-spring snap beans was reversed, at least temporarily, because of higher yields than in 1956 in South Carolina and Georgia. For the group, the planted acreage was slightly higher than in 1956. Abandonment was less than usual and the acreage for harvest was one percent more than in 1956. The average yield in 1957 was fairly high in relation to 1956 and the 1951-55 average. Production was 27 percent more than in 1956 but 3 percent below the 1951-55 average. Supplies from competing states in the early and late spring seasonal groups overlapped and adversely affected prices. The average price received by growers was considerably less than the relatively high price of 1956, but only slightly less than the 1951-55 average. Competition from canned and frozen supplies in 1958 is expected to be at least as much as in the spring of 1957.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1957. Such an acreage with normal abandonment of 1 percent and 1951-55 average yields will result in a production 23 percent less than in 1957, 3 percent less than in 1956 and 25 percent less than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Snap Beans - Late Spring

(Arkansas, California, Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina and Virginia)

Year	: Acreage	: Yield	:	:
	:Planted:For Harvest:	Per Acre	:Production:	Price : Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per (\$1,000 cwt.)

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage equal
to 1957)

17,800

1/ 39

694

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	17,800	17,400	42	2/ 737	9.94	7,208
1956	17,300	17,300	38	666	10.14	6,751
1951-55 Average	20,020	20,020	39	2/ 767	8.26	6,232
1946-50 "	25,380	25,260	32	2/ 808	6.61	5,250

1/ 1951-55 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 53 in 1947, 6 in 1949, 18 in 1954, 48 in 1955 and 12 in 1957.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1957 production was 11 percent larger than the relatively small crop of 1956, reflecting slightly higher yields in some areas. Growing conditions were unfavorable in several important producing areas. Yields in New Jersey were reduced by hot, dry weather. Excessive rains flooded the relatively small crop in Arkansas and production was much below 1956. However, reduced yields in these areas were more than offset by higher yields in other areas. In Virginia and North Carolina, favorable weather prevailed most of the season and yields were substantially higher than in 1956. Dry weather reduced yields in Maryland; production was moderately less than in 1956. The acreage for harvest and production in California was equal to 1956 with good growing conditions. In the Eastern areas, marketing was delayed because of late planting. Supplies were light and prices were high during May, then declined to fairly low levels by late June as marketings increased. Season average prices were average or better in all states except North Carolina where the price was low. About 7 percent of the North Carolina crop was not marketed. Supplies of competing processed snap beans in 1958 are expected to be at least as heavy as in 1957.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage equal to 1957. Such an acreage with no abandonment and 1951-55 average yields will result in a production 6 percent less than in 1957, 4 percent more than in 1956, but 10 percent less than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Beets

(North Carolina and South Carolina)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest: Per Acre :Production: Price : Value (acres) (cwt.) (1,000 cwt.)(\$ per (\$1,000 cwt.)
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1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage equal
to 1957) 750

1/ 91

68

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	750	750	99	<u>2</u> / 74	4.07	277
1956	960	880	107	94	4.87	458
1951-55 Average	996	948	105	<u>2</u> /100	5.46	543
1946-50 "	1,298	1,282	93	119	5.02	588

1/ 1953-57 average yield by states.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 4 in 1951, and 6 in 1957.

Comparisons and Comments: Production of spring beets has declined sharply in recent years, largely reflecting a decline in acreage. After experiencing near crop failures in 1955 and 1956 because of adverse weather, Virginia discontinued commercial production in 1957. During 1957, growing conditions in both North and South Carolina were favorable; yields were above average. Total production was 21 percent below 1956 and 26 percent below the 1951-55 average. Shipments of the small South Carolina crop started in early April and were practically finished by early May. The bulk of the North Carolina crop was marketed from mid-May until mid-June. Prices were fairly high early in the season reflecting a smaller than usual overlap with the drought reduced winter crop in Texas, but declined to low levels in the first half of May. Some abandonment occurred in South Carolina at this time. Season average prices in both North and South Carolina were relatively low. Supplies of canned beets are expected to be moderately smaller in 1958 than the very heavy supplies in 1957. However, they probably will still be ample and will offer strong competition to the fresh supplies.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage equal to 1957. Such an acreage, with no abandonment and 1953-57 average yields by states, will result in a total production 8 percent less than in 1957 and 32 percent less than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Broccoli - Early Spring

(California)

Year	: Acreage	: Yield	:	:	:
	:Planted:For Harvest:	Per Acre	:Production:	Price	Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage 10 percent
less than in 1957 12,800

1/ 63

806

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	14,200	14,200	50	710	6.69	4,748
1956	14,600	13,000	71	923	7.26	6,700
1951-55 Average	10,780	10,780	63	682	7.77	5,267
1946-50 "	7,500	7,500	53	396	8.91	3,528

1/ 1951-55 average yield.

Comparisons and Comments: While planted acreage in California during 1957 was slightly less than in 1956, acreage for harvest was 9 percent larger in 1957 than in 1956 when considerable acreage was lost because of flooding. The 1957 acreage for harvest was 32 percent more than the 1951-55 average and 89 percent above the 1946-50 average. Below normal temperatures in January delayed the crop in some areas. Excessive rains in January and February adversely affected yields and quality, especially in the Santa Maria area. Yield was considerably less than the relatively high yield of 1956 and less than the average of 1951-55. The lower yield much more than offset the increased acreage for harvest and production was sharply reduced from 1956. The 1957 production was 23 percent less than in 1956, 4 percent more than the 1951-55 average but 79 percent more than the 1946-50 average. Freezers were reluctant to take supplies not under contract. Prices were relatively low throughout the marketing period and were especially low when marketings were heaviest in late March and early April. Prices improved to moderate levels only when supplies decreased late in the season. Supplies of frozen broccoli are expected to be heavier in the spring of 1958.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 10 percent less than in 1957. Such an acreage, with no abandonment and a 1951-55 average yield will result in a production 14 percent more than in 1957, but 13 percent less than in 1956 and 18 percent more than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Broccoli - Late Spring

(New Jersey and Virginia)

Year	: Acreage	: Yield	:	:	:
	:Planted:For Harvest:	Per Acre	:Production:	Price	Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)

1958 Acreage Guide and Probable Production

(planted acreage equal to 1957)

820

1/ 89

73

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	820	820	87	71	6.56	466
1956	800	800	94	75	13.17	988
1951-55 Average	2/700	700	71	48	9.28	434

1/ 1954-57 average yield.

2/ Estimates not available prior to 1949.

Comparisons and Comments: Acreage of late spring broccoli, fairly stable since 1949, was slightly higher in 1957 than in 1956. Acreage in New Jersey was about the same as in 1956 but acreage in Virginia was sharply reduced from 1956. Weather conditions were generally favorable early in the season but unusually hot, dry weather during June curtailed harvesting earlier than was expected in New Jersey. For the two states, average yield per acre was 7 percent less than in 1956 but 23 percent above the 1951-55 average. Production in 1957 was moderately less than in 1956 but 48 percent higher than the 1951-55 average. Competition from the early spring crop in California was strong in 1957. Prices received by producers were much less than the relatively high prices of 1956 and also were below the 1951-55 average. Competing supplies of frozen broccoli are expected to be at least as heavy in the spring of 1958 as in 1957.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1957. Such an acreage with no abandonment and a 1954-57 average yield will result in a production 3 percent more than in 1957, 3 percent less than in 1956 but 52 percent more than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Cabbage - Early Spring

(Alabama, California, Georgia (south), Louisiana,
Mississippi and South Carolina)

Year	: Acreage	: Yield	:	:	:
	:Planted:For Harvest:	Per Acre	:Production:	Price	Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage equal to
1957) 16,700

1/ 128 2,116

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	16,700	16,600	145	<u>2</u> / 2,403	1.75	4,044
1956	17,300	17,300	133	<u>2</u> / 2,298	1.41	3,000
1951-55 Average	19,080	18,380	124	<u>2</u> / 2,270	2.07	4,458
1946-50 "	26,620	26,340	109	<u>2</u> / 2,863	1.83	5,046

1/ 1953-57 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 166 in 1946, 128 in 1948, 36 in 1949, 70 in 1950, 40 in 1951, 135 in 1953, 64 in 1954, 80 in 1955, 174 in 1956 and 92 in 1957.

Comparisons and Comments: Growing conditions were highly variable between states during the 1957 season. The Georgia crop was reduced by dry weather; the Louisiana crop was damaged by an early season freeze and by heavy rains late in the season. However, the other states had favorable conditions and yields were very high. The group total production was 5 percent more than in 1956 and 6 percent above the 1951-55 average. Movement of the crop began in a light way during the latter half of March. Prices were fairly high for a brief period then declined steadily as shipments increased. Prices reached low levels in late April as late marketings from South Carolina overlapped heavy shipments from Mississippi. Georgia growers abandoned a portion of their crop. Prices continued low until late May then improved to moderate levels as the season neared its end. Season average prices were moderate in South Carolina, Louisiana and Alabama but low in other states. With more normal yields, production from the 1957 acreage probably would have been in line with market requirements.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage equal to 1957. Such an acreage with a normal abandonment of 1 percent and a 1953-57 average yield, will result in a production 12 percent less than in 1957 and 7 percent below the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Cabbage - Late Spring

(Ohio, Missouri, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina,
Kentucky and Tennessee)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	: Yield : Per Acre	: : (1,000 cwt.)	: : (\$ per cwt.)	: : (\$1,000)
	(acres)	(cwt.)			

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage equal to
1957) 8,700

1/ 123

1,059

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	8,700	8,600	120	<u>2</u> / 1,030	2.36	2,381
1956	8,800	8,780	138	1,208	2.27	2,744
1951-55 Average	8,930	8,750	123	<u>2</u> / 1,079	2.26	2,108
1946-50 "	11,342	11,202	125	<u>2</u> / 1,414	1.75	2,205

1/ 1951-55 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 326 in 1946, 34 in 1948, 88 in 1949, 150 in 1950, 294 in 1951, 20 in 1952, 74 in 1953, 168 in 1954, 120 in 1955, and 22 in 1957.

Comparisons and Comments: Late spring cabbage production in 1957 was 15 percent less than in 1956 and 5 percent less than the 1951-55 average. The decline from 1956 resulted from a slightly smaller acreage and a group average yield much below the high level in 1956. The lower yield reflected adverse growing conditions in Ohio, Virginia and North Carolina. Yields in other states were well above average. The crop was delayed slightly by cool, wet weather and there was little overlap with marketings from the preceding early spring crop. A light movement began in late May. Prices were moderate for a short period but declined to low levels in the first half of June as shipments from most states reached a peak. Some abandonment occurred in Virginia. During the last half of June, shipments declined seasonally and prices improved to moderate levels. Season average prices in most states were above 1956 and the 1951-55 average. Contributing to the generally favorable price situation was a lighter than usual overlap at the end of the season with the relatively small early summer crops.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage equal to 1957. Such an acreage, with a normal abandonment of 1 percent and a 1951-55 average yield, will result in a production 3 percent more than in 1957 but 2 percent below the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Carrots

(Arizona)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	Yield : Per Acre	: : (1,000 cwt.)	: : Price	: : Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)		(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage 10 percent
less than in 1957) 1,800

1/ 207

373

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	2,000	2,000	220	440	3.90	1,716
1956	2,400	2,400	180	432	4.10	1,771
1951-55 Average	2,700	2,660	207	540	4.04	2,167
1946-50 "	4,020	4,020	228	2/ 915	4.20	3,322

1/ 1951-55 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 44 in 1946, 232 in 1947, 40 in 1949 and 176 in 1950.

Comparisons and Comments: The downward trend in spring carrot production was halted temporarily in 1957 when the crop was 2 percent larger than in 1956. The slight increase was the result of substantially higher yields since the acreage was 17 percent less than in 1956. Shipments from the small crop began in late April, increased steadily to a peak in mid-June, then declined sharply during the last half of June as harvest became active in Central California. Prices were at moderate levels in early May and gradually declined as the season progressed, reaching very low levels by the end of the season. Season average prices were moderately below 1956 and the 1951-55 average. The major factor in the moderate prices early in the season was the earlier than usual windup of the winter shipping season in Texas, where drought had sharply restricted acreage. Provided weather conditions permit a near-normal acreage in Texas in 1958, Arizona growers should expect considerable competition for markets early in the Arizona shipping season. Growers should also anticipate continued strong competition from the central California deal. Under these circumstances, the possibilities of a profitable operation appear to be limited.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 10 percent less than in 1957. Such an acreage with no abandonment and a 1951-55 average yield, will result in a production 15 percent less than in 1957 and 31 percent below the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Cauliflower - Early Spring

(California)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	: Yield : : Per Acre :	: Production: : (1,000 cwt.):	: Price : : (\$ per cwt.):	: Value : (\$1,000)
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)		

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage 15 percent
less than in 1957) 6,500

1/ 166

1,079

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	7,700	7,700	125	962	3.27	3,142
1956	7,400	6,200	165	1,023	3.64	3,721
1951-55 Average	6,860	6,780	166	1,123	3.22	3,618
1946-50 "	9,370	9,342	154	1,432	3.58	5,127

1/ 1951-55 average yield.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1957 acreage for harvest was substantially higher than in 1956 when unusually heavy rains caused considerable flooding and acreage losses. The acreage in 1957 also was slightly higher than the 1951-55 average. The 1957 average yield was 24 percent less than in 1956 and the 1951-55 average. The principle cause of the lower yield was the heavy rains in the Santa Maria area during February which resulted in considerable cullage. The larger acreage was offset by the lower yield per acre and total production was 6 percent less than in 1956 and less than the 1951-55 average. Shipments were light until mid-February, then increased during the last half of the month. The movement, much of it to freezers, continued heavy throughout March. Prices were moderate early in the season but declined to low levels as shipments increased. During the spring of 1957, very large stocks of frozen cauliflower tended to depress the market; prices were low throughout the year. Competing supplies of frozen cauliflower in 1958 are expected to be at least as large as in the spring of 1957.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 15 percent less than in 1957. Such an acreage with no abandonment and a 1951-55 average yield will result in a production 12 percent more than in 1957, 5 percent more than in 1956 and 4 percent less than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Cauliflower - Late Spring

(New Jersey)

Year	: Acreage	: Yield	:	:
	:Planted:For Harvest:	Per Acre	:Production:	Price : Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per (\$1,000 cwt.)

1958 Acreage Guide and

Probable Production

(planted acreage equal to
1957) 300

1/ 251 75

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	300	250	230	58	4.15	241
1956	300	300	220	66	3.30	218
1951-55 Average	260	260	264	69	4.90	333
1946-50 "	320	320	164	52	4.45	227

1/ 1953-57 Average yield.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1957 planted acreage in New Jersey was the same as in 1956, 15 percent more than the 1951-55 average, and 6 percent less than the 1946-50 average. Growing conditions were favorable during most of the season but unusually hot, dry weather in late June curtailed harvesting earlier than was expected and reduced the yield somewhat from earlier expectations. Acreage for harvest also was reduced somewhat by the dry weather. Despite the unfavorable weather conditions late in the season, the yield was 5 percent more than the relatively low yield of 1956 when the crop was delayed by cold, wet weather but 13 percent less than the 1951-55 average. Production was 12 percent less than in 1956 and 16 percent below the 1951-55 average. Prices averaged substantially higher than in 1956 but slightly below both the 1951-55 average and the 1946-50 average. Supplies of frozen cauliflower were heavy during the 1957 season and markets were weak. Competition from frozen supplies is expected to be equally strong in 1958.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1957. Such an acreage with no abandonment and a 1953-57 average yield will result in a production 29 percent more than in 1957, 14 percent more than in 1956, and 9 percent more than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Celery

(Florida and California)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	: Yield : Per Acre	: : :Production:	: Price : (\$ per	: Value (\$1,000)
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(cwt.)	

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(see 1958 guide be-
low)

7,300

1/ 563

4,018

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	7,800	7,400	501	3,705	4.09	15,151
1956	7,200	7,000	572	<u>2</u> / 4,004	3.31	13,157
1951-55 Average	6,700	6,540	554	<u>2</u> / 3,626	3.68	12,901
1946-50 "	6,880	6,700	428	<u>2</u> / 2,840	4.43	12,009

1/ 1955-57 average yield by states.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 45 in 1946, 236 in 1948, 95 in 1949, 58 in 1950, 26 in 1951, 14 in 1952, 16 in 1953, 274 in 1954, 66 in 1955 and 29 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: Acreages in both California and Florida have moved upward since 1955. Increased plantings in 1957 in both states were more than offset by low yields. In California, yield was reduced by pink rot, which necessitated heavy culling and stripping of outer stems. Black-heart and blight effected yields in the Everglades area of Florida. Some acreage in the Sarasota and Everglades areas of Florida were lost in April due to adverse weather. Production was almost 8 percent less than in 1956, but slightly above the 1951-55 average. Prices averaged considerably above 1956 and were the highest since 1953. In Florida, shipping point prices for all sizes of Pascal ranged from \$1.75 to \$2.50 in early April, declined to the seasonal low of \$1.50 to \$1.75 by mid-April and then gradually strengthened in late April and through May. F.o.b. prices for California Pascal, 2-3 dozens, ranged from \$3.00 to \$3.25 during the spring season. Florida shipments peaked the third week in April. California shipments peaked the second week in June.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 10 percent less than in 1957 in Florida, and an acreage equal to 1957 in California. Such acreages, with an abandonment of 5 percent in Florida, and 1955-57 average yields by states; will result in a 1958 production 8 percent more than in 1957, but about equal to that of 1956, and 11 percent more than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Sweet Corn - Early Spring

(Florida and Texas)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	Yield : Per Acre	: :Production:	: Price :	: Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)
1958 Acreage Guide and Probable Production (see 1958 guide be- low)	33,000	<u>1</u> / 74	2,257		

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	32,400	28,900	62	1,790	4.50	8,056
1956	36,400	34,500	86	2,982	3.52	10,486
1951-55 Average	36,940	32,980	66	2/ 2,154	4.00	8,329

1/ 1953-57 average yield by states.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 88 in 1952 and 115 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1957 harvested acreage was 16 percent less than in 1956, 12 percent less than the 1951-55 average, and was the lowest since 1949. Acreage in the Lower Valley of Texas was cut sharply, largely because of the limited supply of water for irrigation. The state's acreage has shown successive substantial declines since 1954. Excessive rain affected crop development in both states. In Florida, blight was difficult to control and yield was reduced. Total production was 40 percent less than the record production of 1956, and 17 percent less than the 1951-55 average. About 90 percent of the supply originated in Florida. Prices averaged considerably above the previous year and moderately above average. In Florida, shipping point prices held at high levels the first half of April, declined to the seasonal low by the first week in May but moved up sharply in succeeding weeks. Florida shipments held at a fairly stable level from mid-April until early in June. Supplies of processed corn are expected to be relatively heavy in the spring of 1958 and about equal to the large supplies available in 1957.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 10 percent more than in 1957 in Texas and equal to 1957 in Florida. Such acreages with average abandonment by states and 1953-57 average yield by states, will result in a production 26 percent more than in 1957, but 24 percent less than in 1956, and 5 percent more than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Sweet Corn - Late Spring

(South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and California)

Year	Acreage		Yield		Price		Value
	:Planted:	:For Harvest:	: Per Acre	:Production:	: Price	: Value	
	(acres)		(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)	

1958 Acreage Guide and

Probable Production

(planted acreage 10 percent
more than in 1957) 13,300

1/ 59

762

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	12,100	11,500	65	745	5.24	3,901
1956	12,900	12,600	54	676	4.65	3,143
1951-55 Average	15,280	14,720	56	815	4.32	3,495
<u>1</u> / 1953-57 average yield.						

Comparisons and Comments: Acreage for harvest was 9 percent less than in 1956 and 22 percent less than the 1951-55 average. Acreages have shown a downward trend in all states except Georgia. California, which produces the bulk of the season's crop, reduced plantings 14 percent. The group average yield was record high. In California high temperatures shortened the marketing season. Total production was 10 percent more than the small crop of 1956, but 9 percent less than the 1951-55 average. Prices averaged considerably higher than in 1956 and average. The relatively firm price levels resulting from the small early spring crop carried through into the late spring season. Although supplies moved from Florida during most of the late spring season, shipments were relatively light. The overlap in marketings from the early spring season was considerably less than in 1956. Supplies of processed corn are expected to be in fairly heavy supply in the spring of 1958, and nearly as heavy as in 1957.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 10 percent more than in 1957. Such an acreage with average abandonment and 1953-57 average yield will result in a production 2 percent more than in 1957, 13 percent more than in 1956, but 7 percent less than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Cucumbers - Early Spring

(Florida and Texas)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	: Yield : :Per Acre :	: : :Production:	: : :Price :	: : :Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage 15 percent
less than in 1957) 11,600

1/ 86

898

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	13,700	12,300	74	908	6.78	6,156
1956	11,500	10,100	83	840	7.17	6,026
1951-55 Average	13,080	10,920	89	<u>2</u> / 962	6.01	5,176
1946-50 "	14,000	12,020	50	<u>2</u> / 595	6.96	3,993

1/ 1952-56 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 61 in 1946, 17 in 1950, 244 in 1951, 191 in 1954 and 50 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: There was a sharp expansion in 1957 of planted acreage in Florida and Texas. Florida increased acreage 24 percent above 1956 and Texas increased 4 percent. However, during March heavy rains and cold winds in Texas and south and central Florida resulted in substantial acreage losses in both states and sharply lower yields in Florida. Total production was 8 percent larger than in 1956 but 6 percent below the 1951-55 average. A moderate volume of spring season supplies moved out of south Florida in late March. Prices held at moderate levels through most of April, then declined slowly as harvests became active in central areas of the state. Prices reached low levels in early May when north Florida sections began shipping. Harvest of the Texas crop began in early April and reached a peak late in the month. Prices generally were moderate. Season average prices in both states were slightly below the high level in 1956, but above the 1951-55 average. With more normal yields supplies probably would have been above market requirements most of the season.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 15 percent less than in 1957. Such an acreage, with a normal abandonment of 10 percent and a 1952-56 average yield, will result in a production 1 percent less than in 1957 and 7 percent less than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Cucumbers - Late Spring

(North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia,
Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and California)

Year	: Acreage : Yield :	: Price : Value
	:Planted:For Harvest: Per Acre :Production:	(\$ per (\$1,000
	(acres) (cwt.) (1,000 cwt.)	cwt.)

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(see 1958 guide be-
low)

13,100

1/ 65

848

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	13,670	13,670	64	880	4.73	4,159
1956	13,250	12,950	60	780	5.50	4,288
1951-55 Average	13,530	13,460	63	<u>2</u> / 852	4.50	3,711
1946-50 "	17,620	17,620	53	<u>2</u> / 940	3.52	3,094

1/ 1953-57 average yields by states.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 82 in 1946, 86 in 1949, 148 in 1950, 16 in 1951, 8 in 1954 and 51 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1957 late spring season was marked by excessive supplies and low prices most of the season. Total production was 13 percent larger than in 1956 and 3 percent above the 1951-55 average. The increase over 1956 reflected a 3 percent increase in planted acreage (mostly in California and South and North Carolina) and above average yields. In North Carolina, there was some shift to vegetable production on land formerly devoted to tobacco production. Although growing conditions were unfavorable in some states, the larger producing areas experienced favorable weather and the group yield was 7 percent above 1956. Only light supplies were available in the eastern states during May, but heavy shipments from the early spring crop in North Florida held prices at low levels. Harvests reached volume in most states by early June; shipments were heavy and prices low throughout the month. Season average prices in most of the Eastern states were well below 1956. The California crop - marketed from early May through July - generally sold at moderate to high prices and the season average price was relatively high.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage equal to 1957 in California and 5 percent less than in 1957 in all other states. Such acreages with no abandonment and 1953-57 average yields by states, would result in a total production 4 percent less than in 1957 and about equal to the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Eggplant

(Florida)

Year	: :Planted:	Acreage For Harvest:	: Per Acre	: :Production:	: Price	: Value
	(acres)		(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)

1958 Acreage Guide and

Probable Production

(planted acreage 15 percent
less than in 1957) 1,100

1/ 125

138

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	1,300	1,200	105	126	5.10	643
1956	1,100	1,100	120	<u>2</u> / 132	4.80	610
1951-55 Average	1,100	1,100	125	<u>2</u> / 137	4.19	566
1946-50 "	1,880	1,720	100	<u>2</u> / 174	4.46	584

1/ 1951-55 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 52 in 1946, 79 in 1948, 28 in 1949, 14 in 1950, 13 in 1955 and 5 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: Plantings for spring harvest in 1957 were about 18 percent above 1956 and the 1951-55 average. However, the excessive winter and early spring rains caused some acreage loss, particularly in the Pompano section. The rains also lowered yields materially. The average yield in 1957 was the lowest since 1949. The reduced yields more than offset the acreage increase and total production was 5 percent less than in 1956. Supplies of good quality eggplant were relatively light during April and moved at fairly high prices. As the season progressed, quality improved and prices declined slightly. However, for the season prices averaged moderately above the 1956 level and considerably above the 1951-55 average. The following summer crop, grown in New Jersey, was delayed and damaged by the drought. This benefitted the market for the late season crops in North Florida. If yields in 1957 had been more near average, supplies probably would have been burdensome during much of the marketing season.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 15 percent less than in 1957. Such an acreage with no abandonment and a 1951-55 average yield, would result in a production 10 percent more than in 1957 and about equal to the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Lettuce - Early Spring

(North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Arizona (S.R.V.) and California)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	Yield : Per Acre	: :Production:	: Price :	: Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(see 1958 guide be-
low)

44,600 1/ 133 5,921

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	47,550	47,500	139	2/ 6,610	3.84	25,021
1956	45,200	44,900	140	2/ 6,279	4.08	25,546
1951-55 Average	46,810	46,660	122	2/ 5,683	4.26	24,152
1946-50 "	48,840	49,384	103	2/ 5,063	4.45	22,211

1/ 1953-57 average yields by states.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 94 in 1946, 17 in 1947, 7 in 1948, 10 in 1949, 9 in 1950, 7 in 1952, 83 in 1953, 31 in 1954, 14 in 1956, and 90 in 1957.

Comparisons and Comments: A record large early spring crop was produced in 1957 and marketing problems arose frequently during the season. Much of the difficulties was the result of an excessive acreage in Arizona where plantings were increased 9 percent above 1956. While Arizona growers were able, on occasion, to obtain fairly high prices, they also were forced to move some of their crop at very low prices. In mid-March, prices were very low because of an overlap with winter marketings. Again in early April, prices were low when shipments reached a peak. There was considerable abandonment as reflected in low yields. Plantings in the Aguila and Harquahala Valley sections of Arizona resulted in a more extensive than usual overlap with the California crop. California growers should anticipate continued market competition early in the season from these new areas. Shipments from California began in early April and became heavy in May. Prices were very low throughout the marketing season. The 1957 marketing season was generally unfavorable in the eastern states and some production was not marketed.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage in Arizona 15 percent less than in 1957 and acreages equal to 1957 in all other states. Such acreages, with no abandonment and 1953-57 average yields by states will result in a production 10 percent less than in 1957 but 4 percent above the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Lettuce - Late Spring

(Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey,
Pennsylvania, Washington and Oregon)

Year	: Acreage	: Yield	:	:	:	:
	:Planted:For Harvest:	Per Acre	:Production:	Price	: Value	
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)	

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage equal
to 1957)

8,100 1/ 157 1,221

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	8,060	7,860	160	1,259	5.01	6,309
1956	7,980	7,580	164	1,244	4.39	5,465
1951-55 Average	8,138	7,780	149	2/ 1,159	4.80	5,549
1946-50 "	7,580	7,004	142	2/ 988	3.96	3,800

1/ 1953-57 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 15 in 1946, 14 in 1947, 35 in 1948, 66 in 1949, 42 in 1950, and 15 in 1954.

Comparisons and Comments: Production and marketing patterns varied considerably during the 1957 late spring season. Growing conditions were relatively good until late June when hot, dry weather caused some damage in the East. Yields were average or higher and the total production was about equal to that in 1956 but 9 percent above the 1951-55 average. The market for late spring lettuce is strongly influenced by the supplies available from the early spring and summer crops in California. In 1957, California supplies were excessive throughout the month of May and prices were very low. This adversely affected the market for the early movement out of the eastern states, which began during the last half of May. However, the California summer crop (harvest beginning June 1) was damaged by rains, shipments dropped off and prices moved sharply upward. Continued production difficulties in California plus deterioration of the late spring crops because of the drought, kept supplies at relatively light levels during June and early July. As a result, prices were high the remainder of the season. Season average prices generally were substantially above 1956.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage equal to 1957. Such an acreage with a normal abandonment of 4 percent and a 1953-57 average yield would result in a 1958 production 3 percent less than in 1957 but 5 percent more than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Onions - Early Spring

(Texas)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	Yield : Per Acre	: (1,000 cwt.)	: Production:	Price : (\$ per cwt.)	: Value (\$1,000)
	(acres)	(cwt.)				

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(see 1958 guide be-
low)

33,400

1/ 79

2,646

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	31,500	30,000	87	2,610	4.45	11,614
1956	51,000	50,000	80	2/ 4,000	2.80	8,680
1951-55 Average	35,740	34,340	68	2/ 2,089	4.12	7,836
1946-50 "	54,780	44,560	47	2/ 2,064	3.44	7,210

1/ 1953-57 average yields by areas.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 165 in 1950, 421 in 1953, and 900 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: Planted acreage in 1957 was 38 percent less than in 1956. The reduction was limited to the earlier harvesting areas at Lower Valley - Raymondville and the Coastal Bend and was the result of poor markets experienced in 1956 and, perhaps to a greater degree, to a critically short water supply. Acreage was expanded in other areas, particularly the Winter Garden and Eagle Pass sections where the crop is irrigated. In addition to the early season drought, crops in most areas were damaged by disease and then later by heavy rains. Yields in all areas were lower than in 1956. The generally adverse weather conditions resulted in a considerable distortion of the normal marketing pattern. There was little or no overlap between areas. Every time it appeared a heavy supply was about ready to be marketed the crop would be hit by disease or rain. Prices held at high levels throughout the season. Under more normal circumstances growers in the Winter Garden and Eagle Pass areas probably would have experienced marketing problems.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 25 percent above 1957 in the Lower Valley - Raymondville and Coastal Bend areas, 15 percent below 1957 in the Winter Garden and Eagle Pass areas, and equal to 1957 in all other areas. Such acreages, with no abandonment and 1953-57 average yields by areas, will result in a production about equal to that in 1957 but 34 percent less than the excessive crop in 1956.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Onions - Late Spring

(California, Arizona, North Carolina, Georgia, and Texas)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	: Yield : Per Acre	: : :Production:	: : Price	: : Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage 10 percent
less than in 1957) 14,500

1/ 151

2,168

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	16,100	13,100	178	2,329	4.65	10,822
1956	9,750	9,750	155	1,509	6.21	9,365
1951-55 Average	15,910	15,810	133	2/ 2,060	3.23	6,043
1946-50 "	17,556	17,290	118	2/ 2,012	2.98	5,783

1/ 1953-57 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 117 in 1946, 200 in 1950, 691 in 1953 and 98 in 1954.

Comparisons and Comments: Production in 1957 was 54 percent larger than the small crop in 1956 and about 13 percent above the 1951-55 average. The increase over 1956 reflected larger acreages in all states. There also was a substantial acreage in North Carolina on former tobacco land. Yields in all states except Texas and Arizona were above 1956 levels. Although the total crop was large, season average prices were high in all states. A major factor in the favorable market was the rain damage in the early spring Winter Garden area of Texas. The movement from that area during May was curtailed and competition with the large late spring crops was reduced substantially. Prices were very high during May and the first half of June, then declined slowly as shipments from the Stockton, California area became heavy. Contributing to the favorable market was the heavy flood damage to the North Texas crop and the drought damage to early summer crops in Virginia and New Jersey. With more normal growing conditions in competing areas, an acreage as large as in 1957 probably would result in excessive supplies and low prices.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 10 percent less than in 1957. Such an acreage, with a normal abandonment of 1 percent and a 1953-57 average yield, will result in a production 7 percent less than in 1957 but 5 percent more than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Peas - Early Spring

(California and South Carolina)

Year	: Acreage	: Yield	:	:	:
	:Planted:For Harvest:	Per Acre	:Production:	Price	: Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage equal
to 1957)

3,200

1/ 34

109

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	3,200	3,200	38	122	8.90	1,086
1956	4,400	4,400	30	134	9.50	1,273
1951-55 Average	6,840	6,620	33	216	7.90	1,685
1946-50 "	14,390	13,950	32	423	7.09	2,958

1/ 1953-57 average yield.

Comparisons and Comments: The downward trend in production continued in 1957 when the crop was 9 percent less than in 1956 and 44 percent below the 1951-55 average. Commercial production in South Carolina has been reduced to very low levels and is no longer reported. Growing conditions were generally favorable and the yield was 19 percent above 1956 and moderately above average. The 1957 California crop was equal to that in 1956, with the increased yield offsetting a 16 percent cut in acreage. Marketing of the California crop began in late March, with moderate supplies available by late April. Shipments were moderate through May and tapered off rapidly in early June. Prices were high as the season opened then declined steadily to a seasonal low in early May. The season average price was below the high level in 1956 but was above the 1951-55 average. Supplies of frozen peas were very heavy in 1957 and even larger supplies will be available in 1958. They will offer very strong competition to the fresh product.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage equal to 1957. Such an acreage, with no abandonment and a 1953-57 average yield, will result in a production 11 percent less than in 1957 and 50 percent less than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Green Peppers

(Florida)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	Yield : Per Acre	: : :Production:	: : Price :	: : Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)
1958 Acreage Guide and Probable Production					
(planted acreage 5 percent less than in 1957) 8,400					
		<u>1/</u> 65	524		
Background Statistics					
1957 Prel.	8,800	7,800	47	367	16.50 6,056
1956	8,000	7,500	67	502	10.40 5,221
1951-55 Average	8,400	8,120	65	<u>2/</u> 530	9.16 4,619
1946-50 "	8,330	7,100	53	<u>2/</u> 386	11.24 3,424

1/ 1951-55 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 32 in 1946, 59 in 1948, 68 in 1950, 32 in 1951, 18 in 1954 and 36 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: The crop in 1957 was the smallest since 1949 because of unfavorable weather during most of the season in all spring production areas of Florida. Continued heavy rains, especially during March materially reduced the yield and caused disease problems which decreased the percentage of good quality peppers available. Much of the damage occurred late in the growing season so that replanting was not possible. The acreage for harvest was slightly more than in 1956 and 4 percent less than the 1951-55 average. Yields were much less than in 1956 and also were less than the 1951-55 average. Production was 27 percent less than the smaller than usual crop in 1956. Shipments were comparatively light during the spring marketing period. The adverse weather resulted in considerable distortion of the normal marketing pattern. Prices for good quality increased to very high levels late in March and remained high throughout the season. The average price received was much higher than in 1956 and also higher than the 1951-55 and 1946-50 average.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 5 percent less than in 1957. Such an acreage, with an abandonment of about 4 percent and a 1951-55 average yield per acre, will result in a production 43 percent more than in 1957, 4 percent more than in 1956 and 1 percent less than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Shallots

(Louisiana)

Year	: Acreage :Planted:For Harvest: (acres)	: Yield : : Per Acre : (cwt.)	: : : Production: (\$ per (1,000 cwt.) (\$1,000 cwt.)	: : : Price : Value (\$1,000)
1958 Acreage Guide and Probable Production (planted acreage equal to 1957)	2,500	<u>1</u> / 28	70	
<u>Background Statistics</u>				
1957 Prel.	2,500	2,000	20	40 6.20 248
1956	2,700	2,600	30	<u>2</u> / 78 4.30 292
1951-55 Average	2,520	2,520	28	<u>2</u> / 72 6.14 412
1946-50 "	1,940	1,940	24	47 7.15 330

1/ 1952-56 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 18 in 1955 and 10 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: After experiencing two consecutive years of very unfavorable marketing conditions, in 1957 growers reduced their plantings of spring shallots moderately. Planted acreage was 7 percent less than in 1956. The crop was adversely affected by weather conditions, insects and disease during most of the growing season. A large amount of acreage was lost and the yields were the lowest since 1949. As a result of the smaller acreage and very low yields, production in 1957 was 49 percent less than in 1956. Supplies of good quality shallots were relatively light throughout the marketing season. Prices ranged widely, depending upon quality, with the best selling at fairly high prices. The season average price was considerably above the very low price in 1956 and about equal to the 1951-55 average. If growing conditions in 1958 are more normal, planted acreage about the same as in 1957 should provide adequate supplies to meet market requirements.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage equal to 1957. Such an acreage, with no abandonment and a 1952-56 average yield, will result in a production 75 percent more than in 1957 but 3 percent less than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Spinach

(Washington, Virginia, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri,
Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio,
New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	: Yield : Per Acre	: : (1,000 cwt.)	: : (\$ per cwt.)	: : (\$1,000)
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)		
1958 Acreage Guide and Probable Production (planted acreage equal to 1957)	9,100	1/ 64	547		
<u>Background Statistics</u>					
1957 Prel.	9,060	8,380	62	519	5.21 2,706
1956	9,270	8,950	64	2/ 570	4.82 2,735
1951-55 Average	10,804	10,124	64	2/ 647	4.68 2,984
1946-50 "	13,018	12,514	64	2/ 802	4.28 3,423

1/ 1951-55 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 3 in 1947, 3 in 1948, 13 in 1951, 10 in 1954, 9 in 1955 and 3 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: Acreage and production of spring spinach has been declining steadily since 1949. Planted acreage in 1957 was 2 percent below 1956 and 35 percent below 1949. Production was 9 percent below 1956 and 36 percent below 1949. The decline in 1957 was accentuated by adverse weather in several areas. Acreage loss was heavier than usual and yields were relatively low. Crops in the central and south - central states were damaged by excessive moisture; the Pennsylvania crop was hit by dry weather; and frost caused some damage in New York and Ohio. Light supplies were available in late March and sold at high prices. As the season progressed and shipments picked up, prices showed the usual seasonal decline, reaching a low in early June. However, most of the season, prices were well above levels which prevailed in 1956. Season average prices in almost all states were moderately above 1956 and well above the 1951-55 average. Supplies of frozen spinach are expected to be large in 1958 and will offer strong competition to the fresh product.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage equal to 1957. Such an acreage, with a normal abandonment of 6 percent and a 1951-55 average yield, will result in a production 5 percent more than in 1957 but 15 percent below the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Tomatoes - Early Spring

(Florida, Texas, and California)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	Yield : Per Acre	: (1,000 cwt.)	: Production:	Price : (\$ per cwt.)	: Value (\$1,000)
	(acres)	(cwt.)				

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(see 1958 guide be-
low)

53,000 1/ 79 3,923

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	45,600	44,100	81	3,574	10.01	35,769
1956	57,900	54,500	77	2/ 4,174	8.08	32,912
1951-55 Average	65,300	56,640	69	2/ 3,883	7.62	29,390
1946-50 "	60,840	58,240	57	2/ 3,328	6.81	22,280

1/ 1955-57 average yield by states.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 42 in 1946, 102 in 1954 and 100 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: The total early spring production was 14 percent less than in 1956 and was the smallest since 1950. The sharp reduction resulted from unusually adverse weather in Florida and Texas most of the season. Florida experienced the heaviest losses, with a crop about 30 percent smaller than in 1956. Plantings in Florida were restricted by dry weather early in the season and by excessive rain after mid-February. The heavy rains also caused some acreage losses and materially lower yields. Shipments were below normal and prices were high throughout the season. In Texas, dryland plantings were sharply limited by drought; plantings were almost 30 percent below 1956. The crop was delayed by high winds, cool weather, and heavy April rains. Harvesting was much later than usual but the following late spring crops generally were late and the crop in East Texas was heavily damaged. As a result, there was no overlap; prices were relatively high. California experienced good growing conditions. Harvest began in April with volume movement in May. The season average price was about equal to 1956. Imports were significantly larger than in the 1956 season, when crops in Mexico were damaged by a freeze.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 10 percent more than in 1957 in Florida, 25 percent more than in 1957 in Texas, and equal to 1957 in California. Such acreages, with normal abandonment and 1955-57 average yields by states, will result in a production 10 percent more than in 1957 and 1 percent above the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Tomatoes - Late Spring

(South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	: Yield : : Per Acre :	: : :Production:	: : :Price :	: : :Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)
<u>1958 Acreage Guide and Probable Production</u>					
(planted acreage equal to 1957)	43,300	1/ 33	1,272		
<u>Background Statistics</u>					
1957 Prel.	43,300	38,300	31	1,194	6.30 7,519
1956	37,000	35,500	33	1,185	8.72 10,329
1951-55 Average	48,580	40,160	33	1,345	6.27 8,033
1946-50 "	52,260	48,860	37	1,814	5.19 9,060
1/ 1951-55 average yield.					

Comparisons and Comments: In 1957, there was an increase in planted acreage of tomatoes in all late spring states. The expansion was encouraged by high prices received for the short 1956 crop. Total planted acreage was 17 percent above 1956 but 11 percent below the 1951-55 average. Growing conditions were generally favorable except in Texas. The Texas crop was severely damaged by the excessive rains during the growing and harvesting period. The lower group average yield offset the acreage increase and total production was about equal to the small 1956 crop. Shipments began during the last half of May, with moderate supplies available in most states in June. Prices ranged from moderate to high levels most of the season, reflecting the small supply. There was little overlap with the preceding early spring crops or the following early summer crops. Season average prices were fairly high in all states except Texas. The relatively low price in Texas reflected the generally low quality of the tomatoes sold. Under more normal growing conditions, an acreage in 1958 about the same as in 1957 should provide ample supplies to meet market demands.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1957. Such an acreage, with a normal abandonment of 11 percent and a 1951-55 average yield, would result in a production 7 percent more than in 1957 but 5 percent below the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Cantaloups

(Arizona, California, Florida, Texas (south))

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	Yield : Per Acre	: : :Production:	: : Price : Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per (\$1,000) cwt.)

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage 20 percent
more than in 1957) 50,400

1/ 95

4,501

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	42,000	39,300	75		2,966	7.16	21,235
1956	52,200	49,000	95	<u>2</u> /	4,654	5.43	25,222
1951-55 Average	42,560	40,940	102	<u>2</u> /	4,174	5.53	23,179
1946-50 "	32,740	32,600	92	<u>2</u> /	3,001	4.62	13,814

1/ 1953-57 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 13 in 1946, 7 in 1955 and 10 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: A sharp reduction in acreage and a record low average yield resulted in the lowest production since 1948. All states reduced acreage. The 1957 harvested acreage was 20 percent less than the record 1956 acreage, but only slightly less than average. Growing conditions were unfavorable in all producing areas except Arizona and yields were relatively low. In Texas, heavy rains and cool weather delayed the crop, as well as causing a reduction in yield and lowering quality. Rain and disease hit the Florida crop and high winds and cool weather damaged the California crop. Total production was 36 percent less than in 1956 and 30 percent less than the 1951-55 average. Shipments were below normal and prices held at relatively high levels throughout the shipping season, and averaged record high. The following early summer crop was small; seasonal supplies overlapped only to a minor extent. If production problems can be solved, a considerably larger volume could probably be sold at profitable prices.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 20 percent more than in 1957. Such an acreage with average abandonment and 1953-57 average yield will result in a production 52 percent more than in 1957, but 3 percent less than in 1956, and 8 percent more than the 1951-55 average.

1958 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Watermelons - Late Spring

(Florida and California)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest:	Yield : Per Acre	: : :Production:	: : Price : Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per (\$1,000) cwt.)

1958 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage 5 percent
less than in 1957) 104,600 1/ 90 8,943

Background Statistics

1957 Prel.	110,100	102,100	74	7,512	2.31	17,316
1956	104,700	99,700	98	2/ 9,750	1.85	17,205
1951-55 Average	94,480	89,820	87	2/ 7,811	1.96	14,526
1946-50 "	66,280	60,380	77	2/ 4,657	1.84	7,871

1/ 1955-57 average yield.

2/ Includes the following quantities (in 1,000 cwt.) not marketed and excluded in computing value: 394 in 1947, 1,382 in 1950, 741 in 1954, 882 in 1955 and 455 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: An increased acreage in 1957 in Florida more than offset a decline in California and total late spring plantings were 5 percent larger than in 1956 and 17 percent above the 1951-55 average. However, the Florida crop was heavily damaged and total production was the smallest since 1952. Excessive rain and disease cut production and lowered quality in south and central Florida; more favorable conditions prevailed in north Florida. Adverse weather and disease problems also lowered yield in California's Imperial Valley. Total production was 23 percent less than in 1956, and 4 percent below average. The small production sold at a record high average price. Prices for Florida melons held at high levels during late April and the first half of May, then declined to moderate levels in succeeding weeks as volume increased. The following early summer crop was relatively large but harvests were delayed by wet weather in most areas; the overlap between late spring and early summer crops was lighter than usual. With average yields the Florida crop probably would have been excessive. The California crop sold at relatively high prices most of the season.

1958 Guide: The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 5 percent less than in 1957. Such an acreage with average abandonment and a 1955-57 average yield, will result in a production 19 percent more than in 1957, but 8 percent less than in 1956, and 14 percent more than the 1951-55 average.

1958 ACREAGE-MARKETING GUIDES

POTATOES - EARLY AND LATE SPRING CROPS

Comparisons and Comments: Heavy supplies of potatoes were available to markets in the spring of 1957. Spring crop production was the second highest on record, being exceeded only in 1953, and marketings from the large storage holdings from the 1956 fall crop held at high levels into June of 1957. Both new and storage crop potatoes competed for the table stock outlet and exerted a downward pressure on prices.

Spring crop production in 1957 totaled 32.9 million hundredweight, 16 percent more than in 1956, and 8 percent more than the 1952-55 average. Significant increases in acreage in major spring crop states from the 1956 levels and a record-high late spring crop yield contributed to the high production.

As compared with 1956 plantings, Florida acreage in 1957 was increased 21 percent, North Carolina and Alabama increased about 7 percent, and California, 6 percent. The relatively small but high-yielding acreage in Arizona was increased 51 percent. A low yield per acre on Florida's early spring acreage was more than off-set by a high yield on the big California acreage.

Stocks of 1956 fall potatoes on March 1, 1957 totaled more than 59 million hundredweight, 10 million hundredweight more than the previous March, and the largest holdings since March 1951. The large stocks accentuated marketing difficulties encountered with 1957 spring crop supplies, even though Section 32 diversion program operations after March 1, 1957 accounted for 8.9 million hundredweight, or 15 percent of the March 1 stocks.

The average of prices received by farmers during April, May and June of 1957 was about \$1.29 per hundredweight. Prices reported were the lowest since the spring of 1941. In some areas prices held below the cost of production.

SUMMARY FOR 1957 SEASON IN MAJOR SPRING CROP AREAS

Alabama: Acreage in Baldwin County, which usually produces the bulk of the State's crop was increased 10 percent in 1957. Acreage in other parts of the State equalled that of the previous year. About three-fourths of the acreage was planted to round-red varieties and the balance to Sebagoes, a round white variety. Favorable weather prevailed throughout most of the growing season. Harvesting was in volume by May 5. A record high average yield was obtained. The quality and size of potatoes were generally good. The crop moved to market at a much slower rate than in 1956. Peak movement occurred during the last week in May and the first week in June 1957. Cumulative shipments through June 1957 totaled 5,400 carlot equivalents compared with 5,500 carlot equivalents through June 1956. Most of the potatoes were in 100-pound burlap bags with a substantial quantity in 50-pound

sacks, and 10-pound consumer packs. Shipping point prices at Alabama points for 100-pound sacks of U. S. No. 1, and U. S. No. 1, Size A, ranged from \$1.35 - \$2.75 during the season; most sales were made at \$1.50 - \$2.00 per hundredweight.

California: This state supplies the bulk of the commercial market requirements each year from late May through late June. The bulk of the supply consists of the long white variety. Spring crop production is centered in Kern County, the second ranking county in U. S. production (based on the 1954 crop census). Plantings in Kern County in 1957 totaled 48,600 acres. A total of 18,400 acres was planted in seven other southern California counties. The California total of 67,000 acres in 1957 compared with 63,000 acres in 1956. Almost ideal weather conditions prevailed during the growing season, and the resultant yield per acre - 285 hundredweight-tied the record established in 1955. Production totaled 19.1 million hundredweight, 3 million hundredweight more than in 1956, but slightly less than the large crops of 1953 and 1955.

Maturity regulations established through the State Marketing Agreement went into effect on May 1. More stringent maturity regulations were put into effect in late May and the allowable tolerance for undersize potatoes was reduced from 3 percent to 1 percent. Within the framework of the marketing agreement, 10 to 15 percent of the State's spring production was withheld from commercial markets.

From late May until early July 1957, daily shipments approximated 500 carlot equivalents. Shipments peaked during the week of June 9-15 when approximately 5,100 carlot equivalents moved. Cumulative shipments through July 1957 totaled 43,000 carlot equivalents compared with 34,500 carlot equivalents through July 1956.

Shipping point prices in California during most of the 1957 marketing season held at or below \$1.50 per hundredweight for U. S. No. 1, or better, quality. In the spring of 1956 when supply in California and competing areas was about in line with market requirements, shipping point prices in California advanced from \$3.50 per hundredweight in late May to as high as \$5.50 per hundredweight by late June.

In California, the more successful marketing seasons have been in years when crop production has been 16 million hundredweight or less.

Florida: The early spring crop is grown in the Hastings area of Northern Florida, an area almost entirely within the counties of Flagler, Putnam, and St. Johns. About 90 percent of the production consists of Sebagoes, a round white variety; the balance consists of red varieties. Most of the crop is marketed during April and May. Early spring acreage increased sharply during the 1950's, and the 1957 plantings of 31,700 acres were record high. Growing conditions were unfavorable during the 1957 season. The average yield per acre of 134 hundredweight was considerably less than the previous year and average. The low yield partly offset the larger

acreage and held down production. Potato quality was only fair and cullage was heavier than usual. Harvest started in a light way in late March and reached volume in early April. The 1957 shipments approximated 13,000 carlot equivalents which was moderately less than in 1956. Prices for 100 pound sacks of U. S. No. 1, Size A, ranged from \$1.75 to \$2.75 during the shipping season. Most sales were made at \$2.00 to \$2.50. Prices received by many growers during part of the season were below the cost of production. Heavy supplies available to markets from Florida and competing areas contributed to the low price level.

North Carolina: Spring crop acreage is concentrated in the Northeastern part of the State in the counties of Pasquotank, Camden, and Currituck. The Irish Cobbler is the predominant variety. Other round white as well as red varieties are produced. Acreage in 1957 was 7 percent higher than in 1956. Frequent heavy rains delayed planting as much as three weeks and caused replanting of some acreage. During the growing season, lack of rain retarded growth of plants and tubers, particularly on acreages that had been seeded late. However, yield was about average, though there was an abundance of small size potatoes. Harvest started later than usual, commencing the first week in June. Shipments during June and July lagged considerably below the 1956 rate when a brisk demand and high prices accelerated movement. Cumulative shipments through July 1957 totaled 3,600 carlot equivalents compared with 6,100 carlot equivalents in the like period of 1956. Shipping point prices for 100-pound sacks of Cobblers, U. S. No. 1 Size A, were generally within the range of \$1.50 to \$1.85. The smaller supplies of other round white and red varieties sold at a moderately higher price.

1958 Guides

The 1958 guide is a planted acreage 15 percent less than in 1957 for the early spring crop and 8 percent less than in 1957 for the late spring crop. Such acreages, with no abandonment and 1955-57 average yields by States, will result in a 1958 spring crop production 14 percent less than in 1957, but about equal to that produced in 1956.

USDA recommends that 1958 acreages in Arizona, California, Florida, and North Carolina be reduced from the respective 1957 levels. A 1958 acreage equal to that of 1957 is recommended for other spring crop areas.

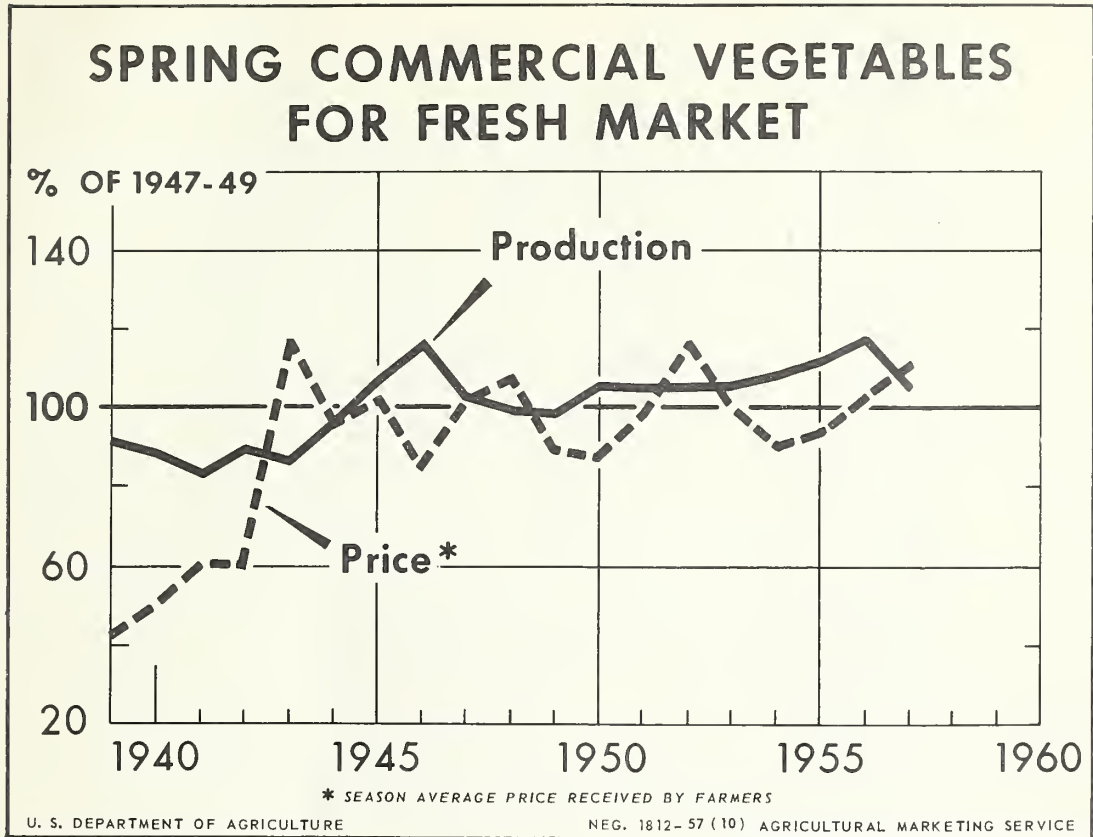
If 1958 spring crop production is kept in line with usual market requirements, adverse price effects resulting from overlap or bunching of harvesting among spring crop areas, as well as overlap in marketings from storage areas can be greatly lessened.

1958 ACREAGE-MARKETING GUIDES

Potatoes - Early and Late Spring Crops

Seasonal Group and State	1957 Acreage Planted	1958 Acreage Guide	Percentage change : : in 1958 planted : : acreage compared : : with 1957 : Percent	1958 Marketing Guide 1/ 1,000 Cwt.
<u>Early Spring:</u>				
Florida	31,700	26,945	Minus 15	3,961
Texas	300	300	No change	16
Total - Early Spring	32,000	27,245	Minus 14.9	3,977
<u>Late Spring:</u>				
North Carolina	25,000	22,735	Minus 9	2,319
South Carolina	8,000	8,000	No change	656
Georgia	2,000	2,000	No change	120
Alabama	25,500	25,500	No change	2,321
Mississippi	9,500	9,500	No change	389
Arkansas	9,000	9,000	No change	486
Louisiana	8,800	8,800	No change	405
Oklahoma	4,500	4,500	No change	230
Texas	9,100	9,100	No change	464
Arizona	6,500	5,525	Minus 15	1,354
California	67,000	56,950	Minus 15	15,661
Total - Late Spring	174,900	161,610	Minus 7.6	24,405
Total Spring	206,900	188,855	Minus 8.8	28,382

1/ 1958 acreage guide multiplied by the recent average yield per acre.



Production of vegetables in the 1957 spring season was 7 percent smaller than in 1956 but was about 5 percent more than the 1947-49 average. The decline from 1956 was the result of unfavorable growing conditions in the major spring season vegetable producing areas. Heavy rains in Florida restricted acreage and lowered yields substantially. In Texas, drought during the planting season sharply restricted acreage, and excessive rains later in the season caused heavy damage. Some crops in California were adversely affected by cool wet weather in the coastal areas and by an increase in the severity of disease in the desert sections. Prices for most of the tender vegetables were relatively high. However, marketing problems occurred on occasion for several of the more hardy vegetables, including beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower and lettuce. In the aggregate, prices averaged 111 percent of the 1947-49 average price for spring vegetables compared with 105 percent in 1956.

